GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:103
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2000
FALL IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION
SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural production has decreased drastically in several States of the country due to low rainfall in the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to obviate the irrigation related problems faced by the farmers in future and the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a)&(b): According to advance estimates, the production of various agricultural crops in Kharif 2000-01 is likely to be lower than those of Kharif 1999-2000 in some of states such as Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan due to lowerrainfall compare to long period average. The all India advance estimates of productionof kharif 2000-01 vis-Ã -vis kharif 1999-2000 is given in the following table:

Crop/Group Of Crops	Production(Million Tonnes) 2000-01	1999-2000
Foodgrains	102.68	103.90
Oilseeds	12.11	12.55
Sugarcane	300.58	309.31
Cotton+	13.16	11.99

+ Million Bales

(c)&(d) To tackle the irrigation related problems, the following important schemes/programme are being implemented:

(i) A centrally sponsored scheme "Command Area Development" (CAD) wasinitiated with the basic objective of bridging the gap between irrigation potential created and that utilised so as to increase agriculture production from the irrigated commands. The scheme, inter-alia, envisages the following:

- construction of field channels,
- Land leveling and shaping,
- implementation of warabandi for rotational supply of water,
- construction of field drains,
- adoption of drip and sprinkler systems,
- conjunctive use of surface and ground water.

(ii) "Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP)" was launched for expeditiouscompletion of large irrigation and multipurpose projects costing Rs.500 crore or more and beyond the resource capability of the States as well as for completion of other projects which were in the advanced stage of construction. The funds are released in the form of Central Loan Assistance (CLA) on matching basis.

(iii) Rural Infrastructural Development Fund (RIDF) was launched under the aegis of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for providing loans to State Governments to attend to the needs of rural infrastructure including ongoing irrigation projects, watershed development, soil conservation, flood control, drainage, roads and bridges etc.